TERMS.

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63 North Queen Street.

Lancaster Intelligencer.

TUESDAY EVENING, JAN. 20, 1880.

Beggars' Tricks.

How Some of the Mendicant Tribe in London Get Their Living.

We take the following from the London Standard : A very curious tribe of beggars is that whose members torture themselves, not out of view and to excite sympathy when the deed is done by exhibiting the results, but in the sight of everybody who chooses to look on, and just to draw contributions by the oddity of the performance. This is one of the oldest and most widespread of mendicant tricks, only in other days and in distant tures and complexion. It was easy to lands the beggar tried and still tries to dig- understand that the two might change nify the practice by attaching to it high places from time to time. Besides, there religious motive and meaning. Anybody was a good deal about the place and its walking along the towing-path of the Isis, between Folly bridge and Iffley, on any of everything smacked of imposture. But it the summer days which idle Oxford devotes must be admitted that it is well carried to rowing matches during the uni- out, considering the quality of the people. versity vacation, will notice in all They will allow no one to interfere with directions young mendicants flinging their management of the sleeping girl or hemselves headlong into the water, to place a finger on her, except under their clothes and all, for the sake of a few own supervision. They refuse all the coppers. Going round the public houses of offers of benevolence, would not allow her the same city he will observe abundance of to enter a hospital or to be attended by a torture of stomach and nerve by extraordi- professional nurse. They exhibit her and nary feats of drinking. A fellow will walk that is all. Authoritative interference they into one of these taverns, when it is full, defy, because, as the woman explained it and make an offer, which is seldom refused, to gulp down at a single draught a body; people gives if they likes, and so pot of ale every ten minutes, for an hour neither the parish nor the police dare medor even longer—the pay being a shilling or | dle with them." The family is not liked two and the ale-often for the ale alone; by the leading people about, who enterand a second, who does not care for ale, tain an opinion concerning the case much will undertake to deposit a pint of strong | the same as my own, Most of the mere spirits in his stomach, at the rate of a villagers, however, and notably its small glass every five minutes, at a similar price. tradesmen, are staunch belivers, in fact Moreover, all these swillers are prepared to they find it to their interest to cry up the repeat the performance after sleeping a whole thing, since there are few of them couple of hours in a hayloft. There used who do not derive benefit in one way or to be Oxford taverns each of which retain- another from the everlasting flow of visied one of these extraordinary beer and tors. spirit bibbers as a special attraction. Such people invariably come to a premature end and often in form to attract public attention, as when some unaccustomed performance in their special line slays them on the spot. Akin to the drinking beggers are those who gorge enormous quantities of food—often raw and occasionally of strange sort-at a moment's notice and for a stipulated sum. the domestic arrangements of the royal Not long ago a fellow of this kind was maintained by the landlord of a wayside The s tavern in Bucks sheerly on account of his inordinate voracity, which drew customers from all sides to witness it in action. This devourer would make nothing of eating a they first take their lesson in Chinese literdozen dinners in succession, and as fast as they would be prepared and only for the only tutor who has the title of ship-fu or sake of the food, which was paid for by the "master." The tutor rises from his chair neighbors. I have met with fellows who as soon as the Imperial pupils enter and remade a point of eating a portion of every ceives from the latter a curtsey (tu-ch'ien),

ever, are those who haunt the waterside (ch'ing pan), and makes a show of adtaverns of large seaports in order to as-Clothing for Men and Boys tonish Jack by swallowing such "unconsidered trifles" as the shanks of clay dents (pwan-tub), known in Manchu lanpipes, horn buttons, and even small nails properly blunted. I have known a swallower of this kind who, in seeking to out- becomes necessary to admonish the latter do himself, actually "bolted" a clasp- more seriously the ha-ha-chu are beaten knife and lived to boast of the achieve- with the ferule vicariously; but when the ment. Other mendicants make a living by showing how much pain they can inflict on themselves, or undergo at the warded. A recalcitrant and obstinate hands of others, without wincing. And a prince is as the last resort actually himself great amount of cruelty is perpetrated on flogged, though probably only nominally these wretches by the fellows whom they by the teacher, or taken before the em seek to interest. One of this class of beggar that I saw had the tips of his ears | cheeks (ch'ih pajou). The late Emperor seared away by frequent touches of the tap-room poker heated red-hot; another way by order of the empresses. would bare his calves and run half a dozen pins into them to the heads; would strike his knuckles a third with all his force against a wall; a fourth was given to suspending himself in a halter by the chin for minutes at a time, and there were minutes at a time, and there were others who would bear to be half roasted, doubled up into excruciating positions, or to have naussous drugs poured down their throats. And all this was done and suffered, and with an appearance of jollity too, for the sake of the drinks and the coppers that were to follow. I have even met with a fellow in Lancashire who was always ready to lay his head face downwards on the road, and let the wheel of a light cart run over it for a small consideration. There was a spice of trickery in the act, indeed, but still it is perilous enough. He used to lay his skull between two loose bricks or paving stones, and thus escape the first shock of the wheel and a good deal of the pressure; and the head being an uncommonly thick one, the rest mattered little. Still I have seen that same head strapped up in all

up" a live fowl or rabbit.

directions in consequence of wounds received in the performance of its owner's By far the most exceptional beggar I ever encountered—the only one, indeed, claiming to be really wonderful-is to be seen—as for eight or nine years past about eleven miles from where I write. I have heard of several such during the last thirty-five years, as the Irish fasting man, Bernard Cavanagh, as the Welsh fasting girl, but never had the fortune to meet any but her. Still, I ought to be satisfied, for much more was claimed for her than was claimed for either of the two just mentioned. It is asserted that not only has she spent a great portion of her life in one long, unbroken trance, but that not a single morsel of solid food has passed her lips during the whole of that time. In addition, the imposture has remained undetected all these years and promises so to remain undetected for a good many years longer. Between nine and ten years ago a farm laborer of no repute, lost the woman who passed as his wife. He was left with two daughters, one about twelve and the other a little older, and both so alike that they were hardly to be distinguished. Shortly afterwards he made a "broomstick marriage -as irregular connections are called in that quarter-with a kindred being, a short, stout, resolute-looking woman, with a wicked countenance, unpleasant antecedents, and a mighty capacity for beer-bibbing. She came of a family that had already played off a case of trance, with a good deal of profit to all concerned, until it came to a premature end by the party exhibited becoming dissatisfied with her part and still more with her share of the proceeds, and so refusing to perform any longer. This affair suggested the trance at present in progress. Directly after the that the younger of the laborer's daughters

was no break in the stream of visitors that day, and the takings must have amounted to a couple of pounds. On the whole I do not think I shall be at all exaggerating if I estimate the revenues of this particular imposture-for which I am sure it is-at down stairs I saw the sister, the picture | the palace. of the other in all things, notably in fea-

Celestial Customs.

Home and Domestic Arrangements of the Chinese Imperial Family.—Tutors and Pupils.—The Watchers of the Bed Chamber.

The Hong Kong Daily Press gives the following account of the education of the sons of the Chinese emperors and some of

The sons of the Manchu emperors

(hwangtsz) undergo from their tenderest youth a system of the strictest education. Rising at about 3 o'clock in the morning, meal taken in public raw, and one in particular in the outskirts of Birmingham— form. The tutor takes the seat an abominable scoundrel-who used to of honor, and when the lesson delight the low-lived brutes of his neigh- is learned the pupil brings up his book borhood by capping every gorging per-formance with what he called "chawing to his seat to repeat the task by heart. If the lesson is not learned the tutor requests The strangest of all these people, how- a cunuch in attendance to bring the ferule CLOCKS, ministering correction. But each imperial pupil is accompanied by eight fellow stuguage as ha-ha-chu, who study the same books as their young master. When it peror, who directs a eunuch to pinch his

> School Lessons. The Chinese lessons occupies two hours after this comes the Manchu and Mongol lessons in composition, given by the teach-Then come lessons in various spoken languages-Manchu, Mongul, T'angut-and in local Chinese dialects. After these come courses of instruction in foot and horse archery (ma-pu-chien), athletics, fencing, putting the stone, etc. (kungtau-shih), under the guidance of a class of instructors called an-ta. whole of the young princes' day is taken up with mental or physical exercises and they retire to rest at a very early hour. At suitable intervals their meals are weighed out for them, and on no account are they allowed to indulge in the pleasures of the table. At the early age of fifteen they must marry. One year before a wife is selected for the heir apparent, he is provided with a handmaid taken from the families of the inner banners (nei-ch'i) of the imperial household (ne-wu-fu), who must be one year older than himself, and prepare for his husband's duties. On his accession this handmaid (tach 'iporko) receives the title of fei, which is given to her alone among those inmates of the harem who are selected from the inner banners. No one but the empress is allowed to pass the night with the emperor. The emperor sleeps with eight handmaids (ch'ang-tsia) sitting upon his bed, and sixteen others (ta-ying) underneath the bed, all of them girls from the nei-wu-fu. Their function is to keep watch over his majesty, and

they are not allowed to sneeze, cough, spit, or utter any sound. A Day in the Palace. The movements of the emperor after awakening in the morning are signalized by a clapping of hands on the part of the eunuch on guard. Once a year-on New Year's Day—the emperor and empress pre side at a grand banquet, the empress sitting on the emperor's left hand. This is only occasion during the year on which the emperor can see his wives together and compare their respective merits. The empress presents articles of food (keshih), to the eunuchs, who receive it from her majesty on their knees, and the emperor performs the same politeness to the women. The emperor is spoken of and to as hwang-chang—"Majesty"—by all but members of the inner banners who use the term "chu-tsz" —"dominus." The emperor, empress, and concubines are all called by the eunuchs "fo ye" or "chu-tzs"-i. c., "Buddha" or "domiuus," and the imperial princess "ye"—the latter term equivalent to "sire." They are spoken of as "ako." The three inner gates of the imperial apartments are never entered even by eunuchs, and of men only eunuchs 'broomstick' marriage it was proclaimed are allowed to pass the fifth gate, which is watched by a corps of imperial guards had tallen into the lethargy in which she still remains. A great noise was made about the affair and much attention was drawn to it, especially as it was announced that the disease "ran in the blood" and that some day or other—nobody could tell when—the girl would recover her senses, speak a few words—words are senses, speak or the clapper (panetre) with the outer world, she must send a handmaid to sound the iron plate (tien), or the clapper (panetre) E. McCANN, AUCTIONEER OF REAL
Estate and Personal Property.—Orders
a few words—wenderful of course—and incontinently give up the ghost, all after the feeling of the clapper (pang-tzs), with which the hard is provided, on which the head A. Estate and Personal Property.—Orders left at No. 35 Charlotte street, or at the Black Horse Hotel, 44 and 46 North Queen street, will receive prompt attention. Bills made out and attended to without additional cost. o27-ly

comers entertained and still entertain the addresses the handmaid and takes her ordesire and hope of being present at the promised revival. I paid a visit to the place on a remarkable day in 1878. A more morning at 2, present themselves at court morning at 2, present themselves at court bleasant day for such an excursion or more at 3 a. m., and are then received in audiuninviting excursion for such a day would hardly be selected. Nevertheless there the emperor's pantry and the whole day is spent at the palace, until 4 p. m. on "off days and till 6 p. m. on days when there is military business to discuss. Thus the only time they can call their own is from say 5 p. m. to 2 a. m. If indisposed, of course, they may obtain leave of absence, which quite £300 a year. Having purchased the right of way, I was led to the show-room. I need not describe the details of this familiar imposition. On going the frequently be a great boon. The chunchi never return the calls of any but the most distinguished provincial officers, and even then this is done on the way from

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'All Styles, at Low Prices. AUG. RHOADS.

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Opened this day

ONE BALE OF

GRAY BLANKETS LOW PRICE.

FAHNESTOCK'S, Next Door to the Court House.

FURNITURE. SPECIAL INVITATION TO ALL. A To examine my stock of Parlor Suits, Chamber Suits, Patent Rockers, Easy Chairs, Ratan Rockers, Hat Racks, Marble Top Tables, Extension Tables, Sideboards, Hair, Husk, Wire and Common Mattresses, Book Cases, Wardrobes, Escritoirs, Upholstered Cane and Wood Seat Chairs, Cupboards, Sinks, Doughtrays, Breakfast Tables, Dining Tables, &c., always on hand, at prices that are acknowledged to be as cheap as the cheapest.

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Use KIDNEY WORT and rejoice in health. It is a dry, vegetable compound, and one package will make K-W six quarts of niedicine. Get it of your Druggist, He will order it for K-W you. Price, \$1.00.

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